

1994, Mrs. Burd served as a special education teacher and taught a resource room class for the perceptually impaired. From 1994 to 1996, Mrs. Burd taught seventh grade language arts and in 1996, Mrs. Burd became Principal of Woodglen Middle School, a position she held until August of 2003. In 2003, Mrs. Burd became the Superintendent of the Lebanon Township School District. For nearly four decades, Mrs. Burd has served the community with great professionalism and dedication.

I am proud to join members of the Lebanon Township Board of Education and many Hunterdon County residents in thanking Judith Burd for her hard work and devotion to the Hunterdon County community. Her lifetime accomplishments and achievements in education will stand as a testament to her dedication to young people.

I am pleased to praise Judith Burd of Hunterdon County, New Jersey and to share her story with my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives and with the American people.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I don't support abortion for gender selection. I don't know anyone who does. Maybe that's because there is no problem in this country of abortion for gender selection.

What H.R. 3541 does—what it really does—is make doctors fear criminal prosecution for their privileged patient relationships. What this bill really does is attempt to scare doctors out of providing a legal medical procedure. And therefore, what this bill really does is jeopardize women's access to full medical care.

I've been racking my brain about how you would enforce this law. Would the "small government" Republican majority require notarized affidavits from women and their doctors? Would we have independent investigators?

We all know what this is about—so I have an idea—let's get back to the agenda Americans really want us to talk about: jobs and the economy.

A TRIBUTE TO NYEMASTER, GOODE, P.C.

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Des Moines-based law firm, Nyemaster Goode, for being named among our nation's Top 30 Employers by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. In earning this recognition, Nyemaster Goode is also nominated to receive the 2012 Freedom Award from the ESGR.

The ESGR is an agency within the Department of Defense that supports employers who facilitate career opportunities for members of the National Guard and Reserve. The Free-

dom Award is the DoD's highest recognition given to employers for "exceptional support" of Guard and Reserve employees. Nyemaster Goode is one of only 30 employers selected to be nominated for this award out of the staggering 3,236 nationwide nominations received this year. In September, up to 15 recipients will be announced and honored in Washington, D.C., at the 17th annual Freedom Award Ceremony. Since its establishment in 1996, only 160 employers have been honored with this prestigious award.

The honor that is bestowed on finalists of the Freedom Award is put best by the ESGR in stating, "Employers named as finalists for the award distinguish themselves not only for adhering to the employment and reemployment rights of Guard and Reserve members, but for actively creating opportunities to assist and support the service of both Guard and Reserve employees and their families." Nyemaster Goode's unwavering support of our citizen warriors has truly placed the firm as a shining example to our nation's most prominent businesses.

Mr. Speaker, the commitment Nyemaster Goode has shown to the members of the Guard and Reserve is a testament to the respect Iowans share for our men and women in uniform. It is with great pride that I thank Nyemaster Goode for representing Iowa through their efforts, and I wish them luck in September. I trust my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Nyemaster Goode for their remarkable achievement, as well as thanking all the members of the United States Armed Forces, at home and abroad, for their service and sacrifice.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF AGUDATH ACHIM

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 9th, I will have the honor of addressing the Congregation and friends of Agudath Achim and Jewish Community House in the City of Taunton, which I have been privileged to represent for these past 10 years. It will not be my first appearance at this temple, which is an important institution in the Greater Taunton Area. But this will be a meeting of particular significance, because it is part of a celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of this congregation.

Mr. Speaker, on May 7th, the Taunton Gazette published an article about Agudath Achim, which is a good summary of the work it does and the role it has played in the community. I can attest to the work that Agudath Achim does, both for the Jewish community, and for the broader society—for example, it was the host for the most recent Martin Luther King Day Interfaith Observation in Taunton.

Mr. Speaker, because this is an example of how an institution serves both the needs of its own people and the society at large, and because the Taunton Gazette did a very good job of describing this, I ask that the article from the Taunton Gazette be printed here, and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating this congregation and the work that they do.

(By Marc Larocque—Taunton Gazette Staff Reporter)

TAUNTON—The Congregation Agudath Achim marked 100 years in the city with a rededication ceremony held at the synagogue this weekend, featuring several guest speakers who talked about their years as part of the Jewish community in Greater Taunton.

"We had a chance for people of all ages to participate," Rabbi Anne Heath said. "The rededication was a chance for us to acknowledge all of our ancestors over the past 100 years and rededicate ourselves, as much as rededicating the building to continue to be a home for the Jewish community for the greater Taunton area. There was no champagne bottle broken or major renovations, but we recognized that this has been the religious and cultural home for generations of Jewish people from the area."

Heath said the rededication was a chance to recognize some of the goodwill that has come as a product of the Congregation Agudath Achim throughout the last century.

"The synagogue has been a focal point for Jews to gather, to study, to pray, and to support each other in good times and bad," Heath said. "It's a base of operation or a home so that many of our members are involved in, doing a lot of good works and good deeds throughout the community. It gives us a chance to socialize and celebrate holidays. Like many other organizations, especially religious ones, it helps us sustain ourselves as a community."

Taunton resident Mike Thurman said that the rededication was a chance to realize just how much the synagogue has enriched his family and many others, bringing everyone together, creating a great sense of community.

"It kind of brought back memories of when we first joined," Thurman said. "Some of the people who came have gotten older and have moved away. It was nice to see them again."

Thurman, a Milton native, moved to the Taunton area in 1975. His wife soon discovered the synagogue through word of mouth, bringing the family into the fold.

"The synagogue is very family oriented," Thurman said. "The congregation is small enough that we know everyone. You end up knowing how everyone's children are growing up, having their bar mitzvah parties. My four daughters had their bat mitzvahs there. It's good to have the synagogue in your life. Basically, it's like having an extended family. Everybody knows everybody. It's a generational thing. We're very fortunate."

On June 30, there will be a reunion celebration for Congregation Agudath Achim. It is another event as part of the congregation's centennial celebrations.

Congressman Barney Frank is also scheduled to be a special guest speaker at a June 9 event with services starting at 9 a.m.

While the congregation has grown with the times—at one point it was an Orthodox synagogue in which men were separated from the women, while now it is a more modern and independent organization—the mission remains the same, Rabbi Heath said.

Heath said that she hopes the next century will be one in which the Congregation Agudath Achim will reach further into the community, touching the lives of many using the religious teachings of Judaism.

"I think one of the most important things for our Jewish community, like all other religious communities, is meet people where they are, find out what's going on in their lives, and to find out what we have to offer to support people where they need it," Heath said. "That's part of the rededication and recommitment. Judaism has a strong ethical component. We believe the teachings of Judaism can support that, whether for a young